

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-11 AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02  
OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGRE-00 IO-13 ACDA-12  
CTME-00 /132 W

-----114782 052020Z /72

R 041342Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5062

INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

USINT HAVANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRIDGETOWN 0922

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, PEPR, MPOL, ECON, XL, CU, BB

SUBJ: EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER ON CUBAN OUTREACH IN CARIBBEAN

REF: A) STATE 056727 B) BRIDGETOWN 0842

1. IN COURSE OF CONVERSATION RECENTLY ON CUBA, GOB EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER HENRY FORDE SAID THAT CASTRO IS STILL TRYING TO GET THE CUBAN SYSTEM ACCEPTED AND IS USING INCREASED PROPAGANDA AND OFFERS OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE WITHIN THE CARIBBEAN IN ATTEMPTS TO GAIN THAT ACCEPTANCE. FORDE SAID THAT BARBADOS CONSIDERS CUBA A CARIBBEAN COUNTRY, BUT ALSO A POTENTIAL COMPETITOR IN TOURISM, TRADE AND IN TERMS OF MODEL FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. FORDE SAID THAT UNLIKE GUYANA AND JAMAICA, BARBADOS WOULD ALWAYS DEAL WITH THE CUBANS AT AN ARMS  
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LENGTH.

2. COMMENTING ON CONTINUING CUBANA FLIGHTS THROUGH BARBADOS, FORDE

SAID THAT THE GOB HAD INSISTED THAT ITS CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS HAVE THE RIGHT TO CHECK ANY CUBANA FLIGHTS THAT TOUCH DOWN IN BARBADOS, EVEN THOSE ON

TECHNICAL STOPOVERS WHERE SUCH CHECKS AREN'T REQUIRED, IN ORDER TO PROTECT ITSELF FROM FURTHER USE AS A TRANSIT POINT FOR CUBAN TROOPS TO AND FROM AFRICA. OFTEN, FORDE SAID, THE CUBANA FLIGHTS THROUGH BARBADOS ARE UNSCHEDULED AND UNEXPECTED. THE CUBANA PILOTS SIMPLY RADIO THE CONTROL TOWER, IDENTIFY THEMSELVES, CLAIM THEY NEED FUEL AND ARE GRANTED CLEARANCE, FORDE SAID.

3. COMMENT. FORDE HAS EXPRESSED SIMILAR FEELINGS OF DISTRUST TOWARD THE CUBANS ON OTHER OCCASIONS. BUT IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT HE WOULD REITERATE HIS DISTRUST DESPITE THE VERY RECENT VISIT OF THE CUBAN AMBASSADOR TO BARBADOS RESIDENT IN GEORGETOWN. END COMMENT.  
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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SPHERE OF INFLUENCE, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**TAGS:** PINR, PEPR, MPOL, ECON, XL, CU, BB, (FORDE, HENRY)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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20 Mar 2014  
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